

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Administration of the Universal Service Fund

5-GF-104

SUPPLEMENTAL DECISION

On October 8, 2007, the Commission issued a Supplemental Decision in this docket (2007 Order), approving updated median household incomes by county for purposes of determining high rate assistance credits pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.09, as well as a method for making future calculations. This decision provides updated calculations.

One of the programs in the Universal Service Fund (USF) rules in Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 160, is the high rate assistance credits program, which is designed to ensure that residential rates for basic telecommunications service are affordable in all parts of the state. Under this program, described in Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.09, a threshold level of local rates is established for each county. The price of service that is compared to the threshold rate level includes the basic monthly rate for service, the federal end-user subscriber line charge, and usage charges based on the local calling area of an exchange. The usage charge calculations include, for certain areas, specified usage for extended community calling and intrastate toll service. If a local telephone company charges a price for its service higher than that threshold level, the company charges the customer only the threshold rate (plus a specified portion of the amount above the threshold) and recovers from the USF any additional amounts needed to pay for the service.

For the purpose of calculating high rate assistance credits, the threshold rate is tied to the median household income in a county. However, county median household income data is only updated by the census every 10 years. In its 2007 Order, the Commission approved the continuation of requirements different than those contained in the current USF rule, to estimate county median household income in the intervening years between decennial censuses, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.01(2)(b). The method approved by the Commission was to inflate county median household income from the 2000 census, by the average annual statewide growth rate in per capita personal income since that time. The Commission has delegated to the Telecommunications Division Administrator, determinations of county median household income using this method.

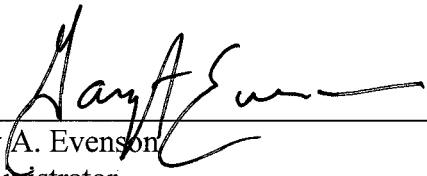
This Supplemental Decision continues the method approved in previous orders. A list of updated median household incomes by county is included in Appendix A. These updated median household incomes were calculated by inflating the county median household income from the 2000 census, by the average annual statewide growth rate in per capita personal income from 2000 to 2006. This is the latest data available for per capita personal income.

Each local exchange company (LEC) whose customers are eligible to receive such credits shall file tariffs implementing revised high rate assistance credits, using county median household incomes in Appendix A. In addition, each LEC whose customers currently receive credits, but will no longer receive credits as a result of this Supplemental Decision, shall file tariffs removing the credit. Such tariffs shall take effect no later than January 1, 2009. Each local exchange company shall also recalculate such credits each time basic local residential or other rates included in the credit calculation are changed.

Local exchange companies who serve customers that will be impacted by the recalculation of credits caused by this updating of median household incomes shall notify those customers of the changes no later than the first bill containing the modified rates.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, 7 October 2008

For the Commission:



Gary A. Evenson
Administrator
Telecommunications Division

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See attached Notice of Rights

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS FOR REHEARING OR JUDICIAL REVIEW, THE
TIMES ALLOWED FOR EACH, AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE
PARTY TO BE NAMED AS RESPONDENT**

The following notice is served on you as part of the Commission's written decision. This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2), and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

PETITION FOR REHEARING

If this decision is an order following a contested case proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3), a person aggrieved by the decision has a right to petition the Commission for rehearing within 20 days of mailing of this decision, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. The mailing date is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of mailing is shown immediately above the signature line. The petition for rehearing must be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and served on the parties. An appeal of this decision may also be taken directly to circuit court through the filing of a petition for judicial review. It is not necessary to first petition for rehearing.

PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

A person aggrieved by this decision has a right to petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. The petition must be filed in circuit court and served upon the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin within 30 days of mailing of this decision if there has been no petition for rehearing. If a timely petition for rehearing has been filed, the petition for judicial review must be filed within 30 days of mailing of the order finally disposing of the petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition of the petition for rehearing by operation of law pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.49(5), whichever is sooner. If an *untimely* petition for rehearing is filed, the 30-day period to petition for judicial review commences the date the Commission mailed its original decision.¹ The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

If this decision is an order denying rehearing, a person aggrieved who wishes to appeal must seek judicial review rather than rehearing. A second petition for rehearing is not permitted.

Revised July 3, 2008

¹ See *State v. Currier*, 2006 WI App 12, 288 Wis. 2d 693, 709 N.W.2d 520.

Median Household Income for Use in Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.09
Revised by PSC – October 2008²

County	Median Household Income	County	Median Household Income
Adams	40,231	Marathon	54,389
Ashland	38,088	Marinette	42,457
Barron	44,888	Marquette	43,047
Bayfield	40,209	Menominee	35,453
Brown	55,933	Milwaukee	45,881
Buffalo	44,798	Monroe	44,761
Burnett	41,207	Oconto	49,616
Calumet	63,305	Oneida	45,302
Chippewa	47,683	Outagamie	59,746
Clark	41,639	Ozaukee	75,560
Columbia	54,268	Pepin	45,290
Crawford	41,107	Pierce	59,671
Dane	59,276	Polk	49,594
Dodge	54,419	Portage	52,369
Door	46,739	Price	42,448
Douglas	42,420	Racine	57,874
Dunn	46,668	Richland	40,942
Eau Claire	47,229	Rock	54,813
Florence	41,847	Rusk	37,746
Fond du Lac	54,887	Sauk	50,507
Forest	38,563	Sawyer	38,881
Grant	43,675	Shawano	45,844
Green	52,057	Sheboygan	55,680
Green Lake	47,522	St. Croix	66,149
Iowa	51,202	Taylor	46,365
Iron	35,621	Trempealeau	45,627
Jackson	44,575	Vernon	39,954
Jefferson	56,480	Vilas	40,654
Juneau	42,552	Walworth	55,725
Kenosha	56,563	Washburn	40,602
Kewaunee	52,774	Washington	68,681
La Crosse	47,534	Waukesha	75,673
Lafayette	44,822	Waupaca	49,265
Langlade	39,942	Waushara	44,557
Lincoln	47,110	Winnebago	53,522
Manitowoc	52,127	Wood	50,090

² Median Household Income Inflated by Average Annual Growth Rate in Per Capita Personal Income from 2000 to 2006.